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Sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Tamar **Tchitanava** (Georgia)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 54 (see A/62/419, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 21st, 30th and 34th meetings, on 5 and 30 November and 11 December 2007. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/62/SR.21, 30 and 34).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/62/L.13 and A/C.2/62/L.40

2. At the 21st meeting, on 5 November, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development" (A/C.2/62/L.13), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 of 20 December 2002 and 57/270 A and B of

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in 11 parts, under the symbol A/62/419 (Parts I and II) and Add.1-9.

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20 December 2002 and 23 June 2003, respectively, and its resolution 61/195 of 20 December 2006,

"*Recalling also* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ('Johannesburg Plan of Implementation'), as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,

"*Reaffirming* the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

"*Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"*Reaffirming* the decisions taken at the eleventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development,

"*Reiterating* that sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental aspects is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, and reaffirming the continuing need to ensure a balance among economic development, social development and environmental protection as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development,

"*Reaffirming* that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development,

"*Recognizing* that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of other United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

"*Reaffirming* the role of productive employment and decent work for all as essential for eradicating poverty, sustained economic growth and a foundation for sustainable development,

"*Recalling* that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation designated the Commission to serve as the focal point for discussion on partnerships that promote sustainable development and contribute to the implementation of intergovernmental commitments in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

"*Recalling also* that the Economic and Social Council should increase its role in overseeing system-wide coordination and the balanced integration of economic, social and environmental aspects of United Nations policies and programmes aimed at promoting sustainable development, and reaffirming that the Commission on Sustainable Development should continue to be the high-level commission on sustainable development within the United Nations system and serve as a forum for consideration of issues related to integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development,

"*Recalling further* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session that the Commission, during review years, should discuss the contribution of partnerships towards supporting the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation with a view to sharing lessons learned and best practices, identifying and addressing problems, gaps and constraints, and providing further guidance, including on reporting, during policy years, as necessary,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

"2. *Reiterates* that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and those contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

"3. *Calls upon* Governments, all relevant international and regional organizations, the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations funds and programmes, the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility and other intergovernmental organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, as well as major groups, to take action to ensure the effective implementation of and follow-up to the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and encourages them to report on concrete progress in that regard;

"4. *Calls for* the effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and for the fulfilment of the provisions relating to the means of implementation, as contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

"5. *Reiterates* that the Commission on Sustainable Development is the high-level body responsible for sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as a forum for the consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, and calls upon Governments to support the work of the Commission;

"6. *Emphasizes* the importance of a consensus outcome to the policy sessions in accordance with the decision taken at the eleventh session of the Commission;

"7. *Encourages* Governments to ensure high-level participation in the sixteenth session of the Commission with representatives from the relevant

departments and organizations working in the areas of agriculture, rural development, land, drought, and desertification, as well as finance and development cooperation;

"8. *Recalls* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session that activities during Commission meetings should provide for the balanced involvement of participants from all regions, as well as for gender balance;

"9. *Invites* donor countries to consider supporting the participation of representatives from the developing countries in the sixteenth session of the Commission;

"10. *Reaffirms* the objective of strengthening the implementation of Agenda 21, including through the mobilization of financial and technological resources, as well as capacity-building programmes, in particular for developing countries;

"11. *Requests* the Secretariat to coordinate the participation of the relevant major groups in the thematic discussions at the sixteenth session of the Commission and their reporting on the fulfilment of their environmental and social corporate accountability and responsibilities in respect of the thematic cluster of issues;

"12. *Reaffirms* the need to promote corporate responsibility and accountability as envisaged by the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

"13. *Also reaffirms* the need to promote the development of microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises, including by means of training, education and skill enhancement, with a special focus on agro-industry as a provider of livelihoods for rural communities;

"14. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to make arrangements to facilitate the balanced representation of major groups from developed and developing countries in the sessions of the Commission;

"15. *Welcomes* the organization of regional implementation meetings and other regional events as well as country-led initiatives for the purpose of contributing to the sixteenth session of the Commission;

"16. *Invites* the relevant specialized agencies of the United Nations system, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, United Nations funds and programmes, the Global Environment Facility and international and regional financial and trade institutions, as well as the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and other relevant bodies, to actively participate, within their mandates, in the work of the Commission;

"17. *Encourages* Governments and organizations at all levels, as well as major groups, to undertake results-oriented initiatives and activities to support the work of the Commission and to promote and facilitate the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including through voluntary multi-stakeholder partnership initiatives;

"18. *Underlines* the importance of the review of the implementation of the decisions on water and sanitation taken at the thirteenth session of the Commission;

"19. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in reporting to the Commission at its sixteenth session, to submit thematic reports on each of the issues contained in the thematic cluster, on the basis of appropriate inputs from all levels, including national information made available by Governments and taking into account their interlinkages, while addressing the cross-cutting issues, including means of implementation identified by the Commission at its eleventh session;

"20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the sub-item entitled 'Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development', and requests the Secretary-General, at that session, to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution."

3. At its 30th meeting, on 30 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development" (A/C.2/62/L.40), submitted by the Vice-Chairperson, Melanie Santizo-Sandoval (Guatemala), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/62/L.13.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications (see A/C.2/62/SR.30).

5. Also at the 30th meeting, the representative of Egypt, in his capacity as Facilitator, orally corrected the draft resolution.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/62/L.40, as orally corrected (see para. 13, draft resolution I).

7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/62/L.40, draft resolution A/C.2/62/L.13 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/62/L.23 and Rev.2

8. At the 21st meeting, on 5 November, the representative of Israel, on behalf of Brazil, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Grenada, Honduras, Israel, Kenya, Madagascar, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Nepal, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda and the United States of America, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Agricultural technology for development" (A/C.2/62/L.23), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 58/218 of 23 December 2003, 59/227 of 22 December 2004, 60/193 of 22 December 2005 and 61/195 of 20 December 2006,

"*Recalling also* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the

Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ('Johannesburg Plan of Implementation'), as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,

"*Reaffirming* the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

"*Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"*Reaffirming* the goals set in paragraph 19 of the Millennium Declaration, to halve poverty and hunger by 2015, and taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all", especially paragraph 27 of the report,

"*Noting* the preparatory work being carried out by the Commission on Sustainable Development for its next two-year cycle, with the thematic focus on agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa,

"*Concerned* by the relatively slow progress so far in achieving the above-mentioned goals, especially the hunger target, and recognizing the need to redouble the efforts of the international community in its attempt to reach those goals,

"*Considering* the increasing need to innovate in agriculture and food production to adapt, inter alia, to climate change, urbanization and globalization,

"*Cognizant* of the fact that technological methods to advance these goals could be sustainable, accessible and of benefit to poor people,

"*Recognizing* that appropriate, affordable and sustainable agricultural technologies can play an important role in helping Member States alleviate poverty and eradicate hunger,

"1. *Encourages* Member States and United Nations organizations to make greater efforts to develop and transfer appropriate agricultural technologies, foster utilization of local know-how and technologies, promote agricultural research and technologies and enable poor rural men and women to increase agricultural productivity and enhance food security;

"2. *Underlines* the need for Member States to make their knowledge and know-how in the field of agricultural technology more accessible, subject to appropriate arrangements;

"3. *Notes with satisfaction* the contribution made by the 'Technology for Agriculture' initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and its contribution in supporting the transfer and use of appropriate technology aimed at the sustainable intensification of production systems;

"4. *Urges* the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to include elements of agricultural technology, research and development in efforts to achieve relevant Millennium Development Goals, specifically alleviation of poverty and hunger;

"5. *Calls on* public and private institutions to further develop improved varieties of crops that are appropriate for various regions, especially those worst affected by climate change, and also calls for further efforts by all the relevant stakeholders to ensure that improved crop varieties are distributed to smallholder farmers;

"6. *Recognizes* the importance of institutions providing effective extension, financial and market services to farmers, in particular smallholder farmers, so that the benefits of new knowledge and improved technology may reach them and be used by them;

"7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution."

9. At its 34th meeting, on 11 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/62/L.23/Rev.2), submitted by the representative of Israel, on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, the Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Nauru, Nepal, the Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the Republic of Korea, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Turkey, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay.

10. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications (see A/C.2/62/SR.34).

11. Also at the 34th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/62/L.23/Rev.2 by a recorded vote of 118 to 0, with 29 abstentions (see para. 13, draft resolution II). The voting was as follows:[1]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras,

[1] The delegations of Togo, the Dominican Republic, the United Republic of Tanzania and Bangladesh subsequently indicated that, had they been present, they would have voted in favour.

Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States Of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

12. At the same meeting, statements were made before the vote by the representatives of Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) and Indonesia; statements were made after the vote by the representatives of Portugal (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union and Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, as well as Iceland and Norway, and Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Moldova), the United States of America and Israel (see A/C.2/62/SR.34).

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

13. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 of 20 December 2002 and 57/270 A and B of 20 December 2002 and 23 June 2003, respectively, and its resolutions 58/218 of 23 December 2003, 59/227 of 22 December 2004, 60/193 of 22 December 2005 and 61/195 of 20 December 2006,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[5] as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[6]

Reaffirming the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[7]

Reaffirming the decisions taken at the eleventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development,

Reiterating that sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental aspects is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, and reaffirming the continuing need to ensure a balance among economic development, social development and environmental protection as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development,

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[7] See resolution 60/1.

Noting that challenges remain in achieving the goals of the three pillars of sustainable development,

Reaffirming that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development,

Recognizing that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of other United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[8]

Reaffirming the role of full and productive employment and decent work for all as one of the key elements in ensuring the eradication of poverty, the improvement of economic and social well-being for all, and the achievement of sustained economic growth and sustainable development of all nations,

Recognizing that good governance within each country and at the international level is essential for sustainable development,

Recalling that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation designated the Commission to serve as the focal point for discussion on partnerships that promote sustainable development and contribute to the implementation of intergovernmental commitments in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

Recalling also that the Economic and Social Council should increase its role in overseeing system-wide coordination and the balanced integration of economic, social and environmental aspects of United Nations policies and programmes aimed at promoting sustainable development, and reaffirming that the Commission on Sustainable Development should continue to be the high-level commission on sustainable development within the United Nations system and serve as a forum for consideration of issues related to integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development,

Recalling further the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session[9] that the Commission, during review years, should discuss the contribution of partnerships towards supporting the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation with a view to sharing lessons learned and best practices, identifying and addressing problems, gaps and constraints, and providing further guidance, including on reporting, during policy years, as necessary,

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[8] See resolution 55/2.

[9] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I, para. 23 (*e*).

Recalling that agriculture, rural development, land, drought and desertification are interlinked and should be addressed in an integrated manner, taking into account economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, related sectoral policies and cross-cutting issues including means of implementation, as identified at the eleventh session of the Commission,

Recognizing the problems and constraints that African countries are facing in the areas of agriculture, rural development, land, drought and desertification and emphasizing that those problems and constraints should be adequately addressed during the sixteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[10]

2. *Reiterates* that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and those contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;[5]

3. *Calls upon* Governments, all relevant international and regional organizations, the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations funds and programmes, the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility and other intergovernmental organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, as well as major groups, to take action to ensure the effective implementation of and follow-up to the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and encourages them to report on concrete progress in that regard;

4. *Calls for* the effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and for the fulfilment of the provisions relating to the means of implementation, as contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

5. *Reiterates* that the Commission on Sustainable Development is the high-level body responsible for sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as a forum for the consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development;

6. *Encourages* countries to present, on a voluntary basis, in particular to the Commission's review sessions, national reports focusing on concrete progress in implementation, including achievements, constraints, challenges and opportunities;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of a consensus outcome and action-oriented policy sessions;

8. *Encourages* Governments to participate at the appropriate level with representatives, including ministers, from the relevant departments and organizations working in the areas of agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification, and Africa, as well as finance, in the sixteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

[10] A/62/262.

9. *Recalls* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session[11] that activities during Commission meetings should provide for the balanced involvement of participants from all regions, as well as for gender balance;

10. *Invites* donor countries to consider supporting the participation of representatives from the developing countries in the sixteenth session of the Commission;

11. *Reaffirms* the objective of strengthening the implementation of Agenda 21,[2] including through the mobilization of financial and technological resources, as well as capacity-building programmes, in particular for developing countries;

12. *Also reaffirms* the objective of enhancing the participation and effective involvement of civil society and other relevant stakeholders, as well as promoting transparency and broad public participation, in the implementation of Agenda 21;

13. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission on Sustainable Development to coordinate the participation of the relevant major groups in the thematic discussions at the sixteenth session of the Commission and the reporting on the fulfilment of corporate accountability and responsibility with respect to the thematic cluster of issues, in accordance with the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

14. *Reaffirms* the need to promote corporate responsibility and accountability as envisaged by the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

15. *Also reaffirms* the need to promote the development of microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises, including by means of training, education and skill enhancement, with a special focus on agro-industry as a provider of livelihoods for rural communities;

16. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to make arrangements to facilitate the balanced representation of major groups from developed and developing countries in the sessions of the Commission;

17. *Encourages* contributions by the regional implementation meetings and other regional events to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its sixteenth session;

18. *Invites* the relevant specialized agencies, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, United Nations funds and programmes, the Global Environment Facility and international and regional financial and trade institutions, as well as the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[12] and other relevant bodies, to actively participate, within their mandates, in the work of the Commission;

19. *Encourages* Governments and organizations at all levels, as well as major groups, to undertake results-oriented initiatives and activities to support the work of the Commission and to promote and facilitate the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[3] and the Johannesburg

[11] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I, para. 2 (*j*).

[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

Plan of Implementation, including through voluntary multi-stakeholder partnership initiatives;

20. *Underlines* the importance of the review of the implementation of the decisions of the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development on water and sanitation;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in reporting to the Commission at its sixteenth session, on the basis of appropriate inputs from all levels, to submit thematic reports on each of the six issues contained in the thematic cluster of issues on agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa, taking into account their interlinkages, while addressing the cross-cutting issues, including means of implementation identified by the Commission at its eleventh session, and also takes into account the relevant provisions of paragraphs 10, 14 and 15 of resolution I of the eleventh session of the Commission;[13]

22. *Notes* the convening of the Third International Expert Meeting on the Ten-Year Framework of Programmes for Sustainable Consumption and Production under the Marrakech Process in Stockholm from 26 to 29 June 2007;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development", and requests the Secretary-General, at that session, to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

[13] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A.

Draft resolution II
Agricultural technology for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/218 of 23 December 2003, 59/227 of 22 December 2004, 60/193 of 22 December 2005 and 61/195 of 20 December 2006,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[5] as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[6]

Reaffirming the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Reaffirming also the goals set in paragraph 19 of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[7] to halve poverty and hunger by 2015,

Reaffirming further that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, particularly for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of other United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[8]

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[9]

Recalling also its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006,

Recognizing that the achievement of many of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in many

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[7] See resolution 55/2.

[8] See Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, para. 7.

[9] See resolution 60/1.

countries is currently off track, and emphasizing that vigorous implementation of all development commitments will be needed without delay if the Goals are to be achieved,

Remaining concerned that Africa is the only continent currently not on track to achieve any of the goals of the Millennium Declaration by 2015, and in this regard emphasizing that concerted efforts and continued support are required to fulfil the commitments to address the special needs of Africa,

Noting the preparatory work being carried out by the Commission on Sustainable Development for its next two-year cycle, with the thematic focus on agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa,

Concerned by the relatively slow progress so far in achieving the above-mentioned goals, especially the hunger target and goals, and recognizing the need to redouble the efforts of the international community in its attempt to reach the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Reaffirming that agriculture plays a crucial role in addressing the needs of a growing global population and is inextricably linked to poverty eradication, especially in developing countries, and that enhancing the role of women at all levels and in all aspects of rural development, agriculture, nutrition and food security is imperative and that sustainable agriculture and rural development are essential to the implementation of an integrated approach to increasing food production and enhancing food security and food safety in an environmentally sustainable way,[10]

Considering the increasing need to innovate in agriculture and food production to adapt, inter alia, to climate change, urbanization and globalization,

Cognizant that technological methods to advance these goals should be sustainable, accessible and of benefit to poor people, taking into account relevant international instruments and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing that appropriate, affordable and sustainable agricultural technologies can play an important role in helping Member States alleviate poverty and eradicate hunger,

1. *Calls upon* Member States, especially those in a position to do so, and relevant United Nations organizations to make greater efforts to promote the development and transfer of appropriate technologies in and to developing countries under fair, transparent and mutually agreed terms, as well as to support national efforts to foster the effective utilization of local know-how and technology and promote agricultural research and technologies to enable poor rural men and women to increase agricultural productivity and enhanced food security;

2. *Underlines* the need for Member States to make their knowledge and know-how in the field of agricultural technology and agricultural innovation systems more accessible, in particular to poor people, subject to appropriate arrangements;

[10] See Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, para. 40.

3. *Reiterates* that the eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition, in particular as they affect children, is crucial for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and that rural and agricultural development should be an integral part of national and international development policies, calls for increased productive investment in rural and agricultural development to achieve food security, in this regard calls for enhanced support for agricultural development and trade capacity-building in the agricultural sector in developing countries, including by the international community and the United Nations system, and encourages support for commodity development projects, especially market-based projects, and for their preparation under the Second Account of the Common Fund for Commodities;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the contribution made by the "Technology for Agriculture" initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

5. *Urges* the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to support the efforts of Member States, in particular developing countries, to take full advantage of new knowledge in agricultural technology, agricultural innovation, research and development to achieve relevant Millennium Development Goals, specifically the eradication of poverty and hunger;

6. *Calls upon* public and private institutions to further develop improved varieties of crops that are appropriate for various regions, especially those challenged by environmental factors, including climate change, and to develop and manage these crops in a sustainable manner, and calls for further efforts by all stakeholders to ensure that improved crop varieties are made available and affordable to smallholder farmers in a manner consistent with national regulations and relevant international agreements;

7. *Underscores* the importance of support to agricultural research, and calls for continued support to international agricultural research systems, including the International Agricultural Research Centres of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, as well as other relevant international organizations;

8. *Recognizes* the importance of relevant institutions providing effective mechanisms for public-private agricultural advisory services, as well as extension, financial and market services to farmers, in particular smallholder farmers, so that the benefits of new knowledge, agricultural innovation systems and improved technology may reach them and be used by them;

9. *Invites* Member States, especially those in a position to do so, and relevant regional and international organizations to allocate financial and technical resources to support the development of efficient, productive and environmentally sound technologies for sustainable agriculture in developing countries;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

United Nations A/62/419/Add.2

General Assembly

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 54 (b)

Sustainable development: follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Tamar **Tchitanava** (Georgia)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 54 (see A/62/419, para. 2). Action on sub-item (b) was taken at the 21st and 30th meetings, on 5 and 30 November 2007. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/62/SR.21 and 30).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/62/L.16 and A/C.2/62/L.41

2. At the 21st meeting, on 5 November, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" (A/C.2/62/L.16), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Reaffirming* the Declaration of Barbados and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and recalling its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference,

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 10 parts, under the symbol A/62/419 and Add.1-9.

07-62183 (E) 071207

"*Reaffirming also* the Mauritius Declaration and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States ('Mauritius Strategy for Implementation'), adopted by the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States on 14 January 2005,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 59/311 of 14 July 2005, 60/194 of 22 December 2005 and 61/196 of 20 December 2006,

"*Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"*Welcoming* the decision taken by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its thirteenth session to devote one day of its review sessions to the review of the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, focusing on that year's thematic cluster, as well as on any new developments in the sustainable development efforts of small island developing States using existing modalities, and to request the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Commission at its review session on progress in and obstacles to sustainable development in small island developing States, including recommendations to enhance the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

"*Welcoming also* the convening of a one half-day session of the intergovernmental preparatory meeting of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its fifteenth session, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/196, to discuss policy options for addressing the barriers and constraints facing small island developing States in the four thematic areas of the session, taking into account the review of the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation conducted during the fourteenth session of the Commission,

"*Reaffirming* that the adverse effects of climate change and sea-level rise present significant risks to the sustainable development of small island developing States, that the effects of climate change threaten the very existence of some small island developing States and therefore that adaptation to the adverse impacts of climate change and sea-level rise is a major priority for small island developing States,

"*Recognizing* the urgent need to significantly increase the level of financial and technical resources provided to small island developing States for the effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

"2. *Welcomes* the renewed commitment of the international community to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

"3. *Urges* Governments and all relevant international and regional organizations, United Nations funds, programmes, specialized agencies and regional commissions, international financial institutions and the Global Environment Facility, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and major groups, to take timely action for the effective implementation of and follow-up to the Mauritius Declaration and the Mauritius Strategy for

Implementation, including the further development and operationalization of concrete projects and programmes;

"4. *Calls for* the full and effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and targets adopted at the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and, to this end, for the fulfilment of the provisions for the means of implementation, as contained in the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, and encourages small island developing States and their development partners to continue to consult widely in order to develop further concrete projects and programmes for the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

"5. *Calls upon* the international community to fully support the efforts of small island developing States to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, including through the provision of new and predictable sources of financing, capacity-building and the transfer of appropriate technologies to address climate change;

"6. *Encourages* the implementation of partnership initiatives, within the framework of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, in support of the sustainable development of small island developing States;

"7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to strengthen the Small Island Developing States Unit of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, as called for in its resolutions 57/262 of 20 December 2002, 58/213 A of 23 December 2003, 59/229 of 22 December 2004, 59/311, 60/194 and 61/196, and urges the Secretary-General to ensure that the Unit is sufficiently and sustainably staffed without delay to undertake its broad range of mandated functions with a view to facilitating the full and effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

"8. *Calls for* the provision of new and additional voluntary resources for the revitalization of the Small Island Developing States Information Network;

"9. *Requests* the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to intensify efforts aimed at mainstreaming the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation in their work programmes and to establish a focal point for matters related to small island developing States within their respective secretariats to support coordinated implementation of the programme of action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

"10. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its eighth meeting held in Curitiba, Brazil, from 20 to 31 March 2006 of the programme of work on island biodiversity as a set of actions to address characteristics and problems that are specific to islands, and calls upon the international community to support its implementation;

"11. *Decides* to review progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation at the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly in 2010;

"12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

"13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session, under the item entitled 'Sustainable development', the sub-item entitled 'Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States'."

3. At its 30th meeting, on 30 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" (A/C.2/62/L.41), submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, Melanie Santizo-Sandoval (Guatemala), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/62/L.16.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/62/L.41 (see para. 7).

6. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/62/L.41, draft resolution A/C.2/62/L.16 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

7. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration of Barbados[1] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[2] adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and recalling its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference,

Reaffirming also the Mauritius Declaration[3] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States ("Mauritius Strategy for Implementation"),[4] adopted by the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States on 14 January 2005,

Recalling its resolutions 59/311 of 14 July 2005, 60/194 of 22 December 2005 and 61/196 of 20 December 2006,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[5]

Welcoming the decision taken by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its thirteenth session[6] to devote one day of its review sessions to the review of the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, focusing on that year's thematic cluster, as well as on any new developments in the sustainable development efforts of small island developing States using existing modalities, and to request the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Commission at its review session on progress in and obstacles to sustainable development in small island developing States, including recommendations to enhance the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

Welcoming also the convening of one half-day session of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its fifteenth session, as called for by the General Assembly in its

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[1] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[4] Ibid., annex II.

[5] See resolution 60/1.

[6] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 9* (E/2005/29), resolution 13/1.

resolution 61/196, to discuss policy options for addressing the barriers and constraints facing small island developing States in the four thematic areas of the session, taking into account the review of the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation conducted during the fourteenth session of the Commission,

Reaffirming that the adverse effects of climate change and sea-level rise present significant risks to the sustainable development of small island developing States and that the effects of climate change may threaten the very existence of some of them and that, therefore adaptation to the adverse impacts of climate change and sea-level rise remains a major priority for small island developing States,

Recognizing the urgent need to increase the level of resources provided to small island developing States for the effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[7]

2. *Welcomes* the renewed commitment of the international community to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;[2]

3. *Urges* Governments and all relevant international and regional organizations, United Nations funds, programmes, specialized agencies and regional commissions, international financial institutions and the Global Environment Facility, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and major groups, to take timely action for the effective implementation of and follow-up to the Mauritius Declaration[3] and the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,[4] including the further development and operationalization of concrete projects and programmes;

4. *Calls for* the full and effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and targets adopted at the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and, to this end, for the fulfilment of the provisions for the means of implementation, as contained in the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, and encourages small island developing States and their development partners to continue to consult widely in order to develop further concrete projects and programmes for the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

5. *Calls upon* the international community to enhance support for the efforts of small island developing States to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, including through the provision of dedicated sources of financing, capacity-building and the transfer of appropriate technologies to address climate change;

6. *Encourages* the implementation of partnership initiatives, within the framework of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, in support of the sustainable development of small island developing States;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to strengthen the Small Island Developing States Unit of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, as called for in its resolutions 57/262 of 20 December 2002,

[7] A/62/279.

58/213 A of 23 December 2003, 59/229 of 22 December 2004, 59/311 of 14 July 2005, 60/194 of 22 December 2005 and 61/196 of 20 December 2006, and urges the Secretary-General to ensure that the Unit is sufficiently and sustainably staffed without delay to undertake its broad range of mandated functions with a view to facilitating the full and effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, within existing resources, including by redeploying resources;

8. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to prepare a report during the sixty-second session of the General Assembly on actions taken to implement paragraph 7 of the present resolution;

9. *Calls for* the provision of new and additional voluntary resources for the revitalization of the Small Island Developing States Information Network;

10. *Requests* the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to intensify efforts aimed at mainstreaming the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation in their work programmes and to establish a focal point for matters related to small island developing States within their respective secretariats to support coordinated implementation of the programme of action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to enhance its support for the implementation of the programme of work on island biodiversity[8] as a set of actions to address characteristics and problems that are specific to islands, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its eighth meeting, in 2006;

12. *Decides* to review progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation at the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States".

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[8] UNEP/CBD/COP/8/31, decision VIII/1, annex.

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General Assembly

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 54 (c)

Sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Tamar **Tchitanava** (Georgia)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 54 (see A/62/419, para. 2). Action on sub-item (c) was taken at the 23rd and 31st meetings, on 6 November and 5 December 2007. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/62/SR.23 and 31).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/62/L.20 and A/C.2/62/L.42

2. At the 23rd meeting, on 6 November, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction" (A/C.2/62/L.20), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994, 49/22 B of 20 December 1994, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/219 of 22 December 1999, 56/195 of 21 December 2001, 57/256 of 20 December 2002, 58/214 of 23 December 2003, 59/231 of 22 December 2004, 60/195 of 22 December 2005 and 61/198 of 20 December 2006 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2001/35 of 26 July 2001, and taking into due consideration its resolution

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued under the symbol A/62/419 (Parts I and II) and Add.1-9.

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57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

"*Recalling also* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"*Reaffirming* the Hyogo Declaration, the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters and the common statement of the special session on the Indian Ocean disaster: risk reduction for a safer future, as adopted by the World Conference on Disaster Reduction,

"*Expressing its deep concern* at the number and scale of natural disasters and their increasing impact within recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world and hamper the achievement of their sustainable development, in particular in developing countries,

"*Recognizing* that disaster risk reduction is a cross-cutting issue in the context of sustainable development,

"*Emphasizing* that disaster risk reduction, including reducing vulnerability to natural disasters, is an important element that contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,

"*Recognizing* the clear relationship between development, disaster risk reduction, disaster response and disaster recovery and the need to continue to deploy efforts in all these areas,

"*Recognizing also* the urgent need to further develop and make use of the existing scientific and technical knowledge to build resilience to natural disasters, and emphasizing the need for developing countries to have access to appropriate, advanced, environmentally sound, cost-effective and easy-to-use technologies so as to seek more comprehensive solutions to disaster risk reduction and to effectively and efficiently strengthen their capabilities to cope with disaster risks,

"*Recognizing further* that measures to adapt to climate change can contribute to disaster risk reduction, and emphasizing the importance of strengthening the resilience of communities against natural disasters through disaster risk reduction programmes,

"*Stressing* the importance of advancing the implementation of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and its relevant provisions on vulnerability, risk assessment and disaster management,

"*Recognizing* the need to continue to develop an understanding of, and to address, socio-economic activities that exacerbate the vulnerability of societies to natural disasters and to build and further strengthen community capability to cope with disaster risks,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

"2. *Recalls* that the commitments of the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters include the provision of assistance for developing countries that are prone to natural disasters and disaster-stricken States in the transition phase towards sustainable physical, social and economic recovery, for risk-reduction activities in post-disaster recovery and for rehabilitation processes;

"3. *Welcomes* the progress made in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action, and stresses the need for a more effective integration of disaster risk reduction into sustainable development policies, planning and programming; for the development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities to build resilience to hazards; and for a systematic incorporation of risk-reduction approaches into the implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes;

"4. *Calls upon* the international community to fully implement the commitments of the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action;

"5. *Invites* Member States, the United Nations system, international financial institutions, regional bodies and other international organizations, including the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, as well as relevant civil society organizations, to support, implement and follow up the Hyogo Framework for Action;

"6. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, international financial institutions and international organizations to integrate the goals of and take into full account the Hyogo Framework for Action in their strategies and programmes, making use of existing coordination mechanisms, and to assist developing countries with those mechanisms to design and implement, as appropriate, disaster risk-reduction measures with a sense of urgency;

"7. *Recognizes* the importance of integrating measures to adapt to climate change into actions to reduce the risks from natural disaster, and calls upon the international community to support the efforts of developing countries in this regard;

"8. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, the international financial institutions and regional banks and other regional and international organizations to support, in a timely and sustained manner, the efforts led by disaster-stricken countries for disaster risk reduction, in post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes;

"9. *Recognizes* that each State has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and for taking effective measures to reduce disaster risk, including for the protection of people on its territory, infrastructure and other national assets from the impact of disasters, including the implementation of and follow-up to the Hyogo Framework for Action, and stresses the importance of international cooperation and partnerships to support those national efforts;

"10. *Also recognizes* the efforts made by Member States to develop national and local capacities to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action, including through the establishment of national platforms for disaster

reduction, and encourages Member States that have not done so to develop such capacities;

"11. *Stresses* that continued cooperation and coordination among Governments, the United Nations system, other organizations, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other partners, as appropriate, are considered essential to address effectively the impact of natural disasters;

"12. *Welcomes* the regional and subregional initiatives developed in order to achieve disaster risk reduction, and reiterates the need to further develop regional initiatives and risk-reduction capacities of regional mechanisms where they exist and to strengthen them and encourage the use and sharing of all existing tools;

"13. *Also welcomes* the launch of the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery in September 2006, through the collaboration between the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and the World Bank;

"14. *Calls upon* the international community to support the development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards;

"15. *Takes note with interest* of the launch of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, held at Geneva from 5 to 7 June 2007, which proved to be a useful forum to enhance awareness of disaster risk reduction, share experiences and learn from good practice, assess progress made in implementing the Hyogo Framework, identify remaining gaps and identify actions to accelerate national and local implementation;

"16. *Encourages* Member States to increase their commitment to the effective implementation of the Hyogo Framework, making full use of the Strategy system's mechanisms, such as the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction;

"17. *Recognizes* the importance of integrating a gender perspective and engaging women in the design and implementation of all phases of disaster management, particularly at the disaster risk-reduction stage;

"18. *Expresses its appreciation* to those countries that have provided financial support for the activities of the Strategy by making voluntary contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction;

"19. *Encourages* the international community to provide adequate voluntary financial contributions to the Trust Fund, in the effort to ensure adequate support for the follow-up activities to the Hyogo Framework for Action, and to review the current usage and feasibility for the expansion of the Fund, inter alia, to assist disaster-prone developing countries to set up national strategies for disaster risk reduction;

"20. *Encourages* Governments, multilateral organizations, international and regional organizations, international and regional financial institutions, the private sector and civil society to systematically invest in disaster risk reduction with a view to implementing the objectives of the Strategy;

"21. *Stresses* the importance of disaster risk reduction and subsequent growing demands on the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, with a view to taking steps towards creating a stable financial base, recognizes the importance of considering alternative methods of financing the secretariat, such as assessed contributions, in particular to cover some of its core functions, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a proposal for that purpose in his next report on this subject;

"22. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the result of the Global Survey of Early Warning Systems;

"23. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that early warning systems are integrated in their national disaster risk reduction strategies and plans, and calls upon the developed countries to strengthen the capacity of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

"24. *Stresses* the need to foster better understanding and knowledge of the causes of disasters, as well as to build and strengthen coping capacities through, inter alia, the transfer and exchange of experiences and technical knowledge, educational and training programmes for natural disaster risk reduction, access to relevant data and information and the strengthening of institutional arrangements, including community-based organizations;

"25. *Emphasizes* the need for the international community to maintain its focus beyond emergency relief and to support medium- and long-term rehabilitation, reconstruction and risk reduction, and stresses the importance of implementing programmes related to the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and disaster risk-reduction management in the most vulnerable regions, particularly in developing countries prone to natural disasters;

"26. *Stresses* the need to address risk reduction of and vulnerabilities to all natural hazards, including geological and hydrometeorological hazards, in a comprehensive and balanced manner;

"27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, under the item entitled 'Sustainable development'."

3. At its 31st meeting, on 5 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction" (A/C.2/62/L.42), submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, Melanie Santizo-Sandoval (Guatemala), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/62/L.20.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Ireland, in her capacity as facilitator, orally corrected the draft resolution (see A/C.2/62/SR.31).

6. Also at its 31st meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/62/L.42, as orally corrected (see para. 8).

7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/62/L.42, draft resolution A/C.2/62/L.20 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994, 49/22 B of 20 December 1994, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/219 of 22 December 1999, 56/195 of 21 December 2001, 57/256 of 20 December 2002, 58/214 of 23 December 2003, 59/231 of 22 December 2004, 60/195 of 22 December 2005 and 61/198 of 20 December 2006 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2001/35 of 26 July 2001, and taking into due consideration its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[1]

Reaffirming the Hyogo Declaration,[2] the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters[3] and the common statement of the special session on the Indian Ocean disaster: risk reduction for a safer future,[4] as adopted by the World Conference on Disaster Reduction,

Reaffirming its role of providing policy guidance on the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recalling that the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction has been serving as the main forum within the United Nations system for devising strategies and policies for disaster reduction and ensuring complementarity of action by agencies involved in disaster reduction, mitigation and preparedness,

Expressing its deep concern at the number and scale of natural disasters and their increasing impact within recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world and hamper the achievement of their sustainable development, in particular in developing countries,

Emphasizing that disaster risk reduction, including reducing vulnerability to natural disasters, is an important cross-cutting element that contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,

Recognizing the clear relationship between development, disaster risk reduction, disaster response and disaster recovery and the need to continue to deploy efforts in all these areas,

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[1] Resolution 60/1.

[2] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

[3] Ibid., resolution 2.

[4] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, annex II.

Recognizing also the urgent need to further develop and make use of the existing scientific and technical knowledge to build resilience to natural disasters, and emphasizing the need for developing countries to have access to appropriate, advanced, environmentally sound, cost-effective and easy-to-use technologies so as to seek more comprehensive solutions to disaster risk reduction and to effectively and efficiently strengthen their capabilities to cope with disaster risks,

Recognizing further that certain measures for disaster risk reduction in the context of the Hyogo Framework for Action can also support adaptation to climate change, and emphasizing the importance of strengthening the resilience of nations and communities to natural disasters through disaster risk-reduction programmes,

Stressing the importance of advancing the implementation of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development[5] and its relevant provisions on vulnerability, risk assessment and disaster management,

Taking note with great interest and appreciation of the holding, at Geneva from 5 to 7 June 2007, of the first session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction,[6]

Recognizing the need to continue to develop an understanding of, and to address, socio-economic activities that exacerbate the vulnerability of societies to natural disasters and to build and further strengthen community capability to cope with disaster risks,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;[7]

2. *Recalls* that the commitments of the Hyogo Declaration[2] and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters[3] include the provision of assistance for developing countries that are prone to natural disasters and disaster-stricken States in the transition phase towards sustainable physical, social and economic recovery, for risk-reduction activities in post-disaster recovery and for rehabilitation processes;

3. *Welcomes* the progress made in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action, and stresses the need for a more effective integration of disaster risk reduction into sustainable development policies, planning and programming; for the development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities to build resilience to hazards; and for a systematic incorporation of risk-reduction approaches into the implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes;

4. *Calls upon* the international community to increase its efforts to fully implement the commitments of the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action;

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[5] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[6] *Acting with Common Purpose: Proceedings of the first session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, Geneva, 5-7 June 2007* (ISDR/GP/2007/7).

[7] A/62/320.

5. *Invites* Member States, the United Nations system, international financial institutions, regional bodies and other international organizations, including the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and volunteers, the private sector and the scientific community, to increase efforts to support, implement and follow up the Hyogo Framework for Action;

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, and invites international financial institutions and regional and international organizations, to integrate the goals of and take into full account the Hyogo Framework for Action in their strategies and programmes, making use of existing coordination mechanisms, and to assist developing countries with those mechanisms to design and implement, as appropriate, disaster risk-reduction measures with a sense of urgency;

7. *Also calls upon* the United Nations system, and invites the international financial institutions and regional banks and other regional and international organizations, to support, in a timely and sustained manner, the efforts led by disaster-stricken countries for disaster risk reduction in post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes;

8. *Recognizes* that each State has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and for taking effective measures to reduce disaster risk, including for the protection of people on its territory, infrastructure and other national assets from the impact of disasters, including the implementation of and follow-up to the Hyogo Framework for Action, and stresses the importance of international cooperation and partnerships to support those national efforts;

9. *Also recognizes* the efforts made by Member States to develop national and local capacities to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action, including through the establishment of national platforms for disaster reduction, and encourages Member States that have not done so to develop such capacities;

10. *Recognizes* the importance of coordinating climate change adaptation with relevant natural disaster risk-reduction measures, and invites Governments and relevant international organizations to integrate these considerations in a comprehensive manner into, inter alia, development plans and poverty eradication programmes, and invites the international community to support the ongoing efforts of developing countries in this regard;

11. *Stresses* that continued cooperation and coordination among Governments, the United Nations system, other organizations, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other partners, as appropriate, are considered essential to address effectively the impact of natural disasters;

12. *Welcomes* the regional and subregional initiatives developed in order to achieve disaster risk reduction, and reiterates the need to further develop regional initiatives and risk-reduction capacities of regional mechanisms where they exist and to strengthen them and encourage the use and sharing of all existing tools;

13. *Also welcomes* the launch of the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery, a partnership of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction system managed by the World Bank on behalf of the participating donor partners and other partnering stakeholders, as a significant initiative to support the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action;

14. *Calls upon* the international community to support the development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards;

15. *Takes note with great interest and appreciation* of the holding, at Geneva from 5 to 7 June 2007, of the first session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction,[6] the successor mechanism of the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction, as a useful forum for Member States and other stakeholders to assess progress made in implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action, enhance awareness of disaster risk reduction, share experiences and learn from good practice, identify remaining gaps and identify actions to accelerate national and local implementation;

16. *Encourages* Member States to increase their commitment to the effective implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action, making full use of the Strategy system's mechanisms, such as the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction;

17. *Recognizes* the importance of integrating a gender perspective and engaging women in the design and implementation of all phases of disaster management, particularly at the disaster risk-reduction stage;

18. *Expresses its appreciation* to those countries that have provided financial support for the activities of the Strategy by making voluntary contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction;

19. *Encourages* the international community to continue providing adequate voluntary financial contributions to the Trust Fund in the effort to ensure adequate support for the follow-up activities to the Hyogo Framework for Action;

20. *Takes note* of the conclusions of the review conducted at the request of Member States on the current usage and feasibility for the expansion of the Trust Fund, inter alia, to assist disaster-prone developing countries in setting up national strategies for disaster risk reduction, which indicated that the Trust Fund is an appropriate vehicle for expanded action of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction system, at the global and regional levels, in support of countries' implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action;

21. *Encourages* Governments, multilateral organizations, international and regional organizations, international and regional financial institutions, the private sector and civil society to systematically invest in disaster risk reduction with a view to implementing the objectives of the Strategy;

22. *Stresses* the importance of disaster risk reduction and subsequent growing demands on the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and the need to review the current methods of financing the secretariat, with a view to stabilizing its financial base, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a proposal for that purpose in his next report on this subject;

23. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the result of the Global Survey of Early Warning Systems,[8] and encourages Member States to integrate early warning systems into their national disaster risk-reduction strategies and plans, and invites the international community to support the secretariat of the

[8] A/62/340.

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction in its role in facilitating the development of early warning systems;

24. *Stresses* the need to foster better understanding and knowledge of the causes of disasters, as well as to build and strengthen coping capacities through, inter alia, the transfer and exchange of experiences and technical knowledge, educational and training programmes for natural disaster risk reduction, access to relevant data and information and the strengthening of institutional arrangements, including community-based organizations;

25. *Emphasizes* the need for the international community to maintain its focus beyond emergency relief and to support medium- and long-term rehabilitation, reconstruction and risk reduction, and stresses the importance of implementing programmes related to the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and disaster risk-reduction management in the most vulnerable regions, particularly in developing countries prone to natural disasters;

26. *Stresses* the need to address risk reduction of and vulnerabilities to all natural hazards, including geological and hydrometeorological hazards, in a comprehensive manner;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, under the item entitled "Sustainable development".